IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor	:	Matthew T. Scholz	
Appln. No.	:	09/982,741	
Filed	:	October 17, 2001	Group Art Unit: 1772
Title	:	FRICTION CONTROL ARTICLE FOR HEALTHCARE APPLICATIONS	Examiner: B. Egan
Docket No.	:	54402US028	

DECLARATION OF CHRISTOPHER K. HAAS
Under 35 U.S.C. § 132

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Christopher K. Haas, of Cottage Grove, Minnesota, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am employed by Minnesota Mining and Manufactuing Company (3M) as a Senior Process Development Engineer.

2. I have been employed by 3M since September 1997. My job responsibilities include developing environmentally responsible processes through lab-scale experimenting.

3. Under the direction of Leon Levitt and James J. Kobe, I conducted certain tests in 1998 to ascertain the static and dynamic coefficients of friction for sample film materials provided to me by Mr. Levitt and Mr. Kobe. With one exception that I will explain below, the testing procedure I employed was as follows (as reproduced in the specification of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/982,741, which I have reviewed):

Test Procedure For Measuring Static and Dynamic Coefficients Of Friction

The static and dynamic coefficient of friction for each film sample was measured on a Thwing-Albert Model 225-1 Friction/Peel Tester available from Thwing-Albert Instrument Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Equipment operation is specified in the Thwing-Albert Instruction Manual, Friction/Peel Tester, Model #225-1 revised 5/94, Software version 2.4. This analysis for the static coefficient of friction measured the horizontal force required to cause movement of a weighted 5.08 cm by 5.08 cm (2 inch by 2 inch) sample of the slip control article against a sample of artificial leather sold under the name Ultrasuede™ HP available from Toray Ultrasuede America located in Manhattan, NY.

The friction test specimen were prepared by anchoring a 5.08 cm by 5.08 cm (2 inch by 2 inch) sample of the slip control article to 5.08 cm by 5.08 cm (2 inch by 2 inch) metal test sled. The test specimen were attached to the sled with a two sided pressure sensitive adhesive such as SCOTCH 9851, available from Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company, St. Paul, Minnesota. The metal test sled weighed 500 grams. An additional weight of 500 grams was applied to the top of the block making the total weight 1000 grams.

To prepare the artificial leather sample for the friction test a sample approximately 10.16 cm by 30.48 cm (4 inches by 12 inches) was anchored to a metal sheet with a two sided pressure sensitive

> adhesive tape, such as SCOTCH 9851, to prevent movement and wrinkling of the sample during the test.
>
> The metal sheet with the sample adhered was clamped on to the metal platen testing surface with the provided spring clip. The metal test sled with film sample on bottom of the sled and additional weight weighing 1000 grams in total was placed on the fabric and pulled for 10 seconds at a speed of 5.1 cm (2 inches) per minute across the fabric per instructions specified in the instructions manual. The static coefficient of friction was then calculated by the machine wherein the measured horizontal force to cause slippage on the sample was divided by the 1000 gram normal force of the sled. At least five measurements were recorded for each friction test sample and slip control article. Arithmetic averages were calculated by the friction/peel tester.

Specification, page 24, line 24 to page 25, line 23.

4. In the Fall of 2000, I was asked by Mr. Levitt and Mr. Kobe to repeat the same tests I performed in 1998, only on additional film materials. Upon reviewing the test procedure as printed in the priority patent application 09/637,567 (and as identically reprinted above from the present U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/982,741), and comparing the procedure to my original laboratory notebook entries regarding the 1998 tests, I noted an error in the test procedure that was detailed in the priority patent application. The metal test sled used for my testing weighed 200 grams. The test as reported in the patent application says the metal test sled weighed 500 grams. In addition, no additional weight was applied on top of the block. Accordingly, the total weight of the block (including the metal test sled) was 200 grams (not 1000 grams, as stated in the patent application).

5. The static and dynamic coefficient of friction test results detailed in the priority and present applications are correct, based upon my 1998 testing. However, the total weight used in the testing was 200 grams, as opposed to 1000 grams as stated in the patent application. Tables 3 and 4 from the Specification reported those results, and are reproduced below.

Table 3. Frictional properties of blended stem webs in dry and wet conditions.

Formulation	SFC Dry	DFC Dry	SFC Wet	DFC Wet
Estane 58661	1.3	1.25	1.2	1.1
80/20	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4
60/40	1.8	1.75	1.7	1.6
50/50	1.85	1.75	1.7	1.6
40/60	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9
20/80	2.3	2.11	2.1	1.8
Vector 4111	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.1

Table 4. Stem web and flat film comparison.

Sample ID	SFC Dry	DFC Dry	SFC Wet	DFC Wet
Flat Film	2.12	2.08	1.3	1.3
Stem Web	2.1	2.0	2.05	1.95

I declare that all statements made herein that are of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that the statements

were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false may jeopardize the validity of the above-referenced patent application or any patent issuing thereon.

Christopher K. Haas
Printed Name


Signature

5-11-04
Date